

Today's News - Wednesday, January 10, 2018

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On New Year's Day the biggest expansion of public health care in a generation began in Ontario. As of January 1st, through OHIP+, children and youth under 25 will receive prescription medication for free. This is one less cost parents will have to worry about, without compromising the needs of their child. OHIP+ is only the beginning of a much needed fight for a national pharma-care plan that will benefit all Canadians.

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Also Today:

Ontario is inviting the public to vote on ideas submitted through Budget Talks, an innovative online consultation to develop policies that will be part of Ontario's future. This year more than 700 ideas were submitted in five focus areas including child care, seniors, small business, students and healthy living. Up to \$5 million is available in Ontario's 2018 Budget to implement the most popular ideas. Visit Ontario.ca/Budgettalks to vote for your three favourite ideas before 5 p.m., January 26, 2018. Selected ideas will be announced as part of the upcoming 2018 Budget.

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Our government's plan to build a stronger, healthier Ontario includes **historic new investments in health care**, including free **medications for everyone 24 and under through OHIP+: Children and Youth Pharmacare**, providing free **tuition to over 210,000 students** and on-the-job learning opportunities to help land a great job, helping 100,000 kids access quality, licensed child care and making it more affordable for families, making everyday life more affordable by **reducing electricity costs by 25 per cent** on average through our Fair Hydro Plan, and taking action to **make housing more affordable** for homebuyers and renters through our Fair Housing Plan.